St. Foine Improved:

A

DISCOURSE

Shewing the Utility and Benefit which

ENGLAND

Hath and may receive by the

GRASSE

CALLED

St. FOINE:

And answering to Objections urged against it.

Being useful for all Ingenious Men.

Written by a Person of Honour lately deceased.

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A

DISCOURSE

ENGLAND'S

GRASSE

SLOUGH

St. Foine Improved,

OR THE

GRASSE

CALLED

St. FOINE:

Vindicated and Commended to all that delight in Husbandry, and other ingenious Men.

NOtwithstanding the great benefit which divers places of this Kingdome have already in part, and are like hereafter to receive more abundantly, by the improvement of dry and barren Ground, and the increase of Pasture and Meadow upon them, through the Sewing of the Grass-seed called *St. Foine*; yet there are not wanting some, who not only speak themselves, but would also engage the State against it; as if the common Mother of all the People, could be perswaded to discourage the industry of some of her Children (for the common good and wealth of Kingdome, as well as their own particular advantage) to gratifie some others with the monopoly of all the Hay and Herbage thereof; and to satisfie rather their imaginary fears (as anon shall be declared) than their real sufferings; although all they can suffer, is but the abatement of that

gain which they have ſo long time made by the ſufferings of their Neighbours, making their advantages upon others neceſſities: And it were very great partiality, to force any part (and by far the greater part, of the Nation to labour ſtill under their neceſſities, and not to ſuffer them to ſupply themſelves by the improvement of their own Grounds (which proportionably improveth the ſtock and riches of the Nation) that ſome Men might ſtill have the opportunity to ſell their Hay, and let their Paſture ſo much the dearer.

If theſe Men could alleadge, that by this improvement of the dry and barren Ground, their rich Grounds were made poorer, or leſs fruitful, or that what was abated in their Lands was gained by Forraigners, and not by their own fellow-ſubjects (which ſecureth the Kingdome from any loſs) they had more colour of reaſon on their ſide; but in this caſe they have none at all: For as the Commonwealth receives no detriment by it, ſo neither doth any particular man receive any prejudice thereby but by accident, if at all; but on the other ſide the Kingdome in general is thereby enriched, many private men advantaged in their eſtates, without the leaſt injury to any particular Man whatſoever: for it is well known how great and vaſt a quantity of Land there hath been, and ſtill is in *England* and *Wales*, which of its own nature is neither Meadow, or any conſiderable paſturage, in reſpect of ſo great a proportion of ground inſomuch that the Inhabitants of divers places, have been forced to buy Hay at exceſſive dear rate, 20 *s.* 30 *s.* 40 *s.* And ſometimes 3. and 5 *l.* a Tun, and to fetch it by Cart ſix, ten, fifteen miles. Others have been forced to ſupply the want of Hay by Turnips (as in *Norfolk*) and all this not ſufficing, men have ſet their wits on work to get more Paſture and Meadow,

dow, whereupon great Levels of Fens have been Drained in ſome Countries; and in other places Meadow and Paſture hath been exceedingly increaſed by the watering of dry and courſe Grounds; and thoſe that having ſo done, have had opportunity to ſell their Hay, and ſet their Herbage at very dear rates to their neighbours, now that their own turn is ſerved, they would pull up the ladder (as they ſay) after them, and would hinder others from improving their dry Grounds, in ſuch ways as they are capable of improvement; as if the Rain were to fall, and the Sun to ſhine only on ſome Mens Lands. The Men of the Vale might as well deſire that thoſe of the Hill-country might not Fold, or Dung their Grounds, or Sow any Corn, that ſo (having no Corn of their own) they might be forced to buy it at a higher rate from thoſe of the Dale; and with far greater appearance of reaſon might they urge ſuch a reſtraint, becauſe the Vale being the Granary of the Kingdome would thereby be encouraged to Sow more Corn, and forbear to turn ſo much Tillage into Paſture, and that the Tillage of the Hill-countries doth but waſte the ſtrength of Men and Beaſts, and the ſtock of the Kingdome to little purpoſe, and will fail the Nation in dry years, and ſupply it but a little in wet years. In like manner the Wood-land countries might with as good reaſon deſire that no *French* Furze might be Sown (as in *Devonſhire* and *Cornwall*) nor any Wood planted in naked Countries, that they might ſell their Wood the dearer, or that no Turfs or Coals might be made uſe of, (as I have heard) that when Sea-coal began to be firſt burnt in *London*, thoſe that feared the fall of their Wood from the prizes they formerly ſold at, procured a Petition to be preferred to the Houſe of Commons, againſt the burning of Sea-coal, as corrupting the Air of the City. Now though

though there is hardly any thing so innocent, or useful to Mankind but that envy, and self-interest may find somewhat in it to cavil at, yet could I never hitherto hear of any thing that was objected particularly against this improvement by *St. Foine*, saving only that it fills the Nation with over much Meadow and Pasture, which if it be accompted a nuisance, the same thing hath been done many other wayes, and those not altogether free from particular exceptions against them.

It cannot be objected here, as against the Draining of the Fens, or the watering of Meadows, that the Slabb and Mud which remaines after the Water is drawn off the Ground, and the Suns heat comes upon it, corrupts the Air, and makes it unwholesome. Nor that it indangereth Cattle with the Murrain, for want of Water, in dry years, as it is found that low and Fen-grounds do, or that it rotteth or deceiveth Cattle (as the Hay of some watred Ground doth) and which is but course, and not very good for Sheep at the best. Nor that it destroyes any Fish, or prejudices any Mill, nor hinders Navigation, or pens the Water up too long upon other Mens Ground above, or keeps it too long from them below, or that thereby any mans ground is cut away, or that any Mans Common, Fishing, Fowling, or other way of livelihood is destroyed, or that the Water is carried off one part, to lye heavier, and more dangerously on another side. All, or some of which, may be truly objected against Draining of Fens, and Watering of Meadows, notwithstanding all which the Kingdome hath been thought in generall so much advantaged by the increase of Pasture and Meadow (all which *St. Foine* doth, as anon shall be shewn) that it hath by particular Acts countenanced the one, and never discountenanced the other.

But now say some (and this is the only objection that ever

ever I heard againſt *St. Foin*) there is ſo much Meadow and Paſture in the Kingdome, that there is not ſtock to ſpend it. A ſtrange paradox, that plenty ſhould make the Kingdome poor; but before I ſpeak direct to that principle (which is that of all monopoliſts, tending to the inriching of a few, by the impoveriſhing of many) I demand how doth the truth of this aſſertion appear; becauſe in ſome parts, where in Plentiful years there is alwayes Hay to ſpare, eſpecially where they were uſed to ſell their Hay, and never look out to provide ſtock, therefore they conclude, that it is ſo generally and conſtantly, whereas there cannot be a clearer demonſtration of the contrary, then the coſt Men are ſtill at of 40 s. and 50 s. an Acre to improve their Grounds by *St. Foine*, which they would never do if they knew not how to get ſtock to eat their Graſs and Hay, when they had been at ſo much coſt, and charge to promote it. Nay, it is ſo far from that, that notwithſtanding the great plenty of old Hay that was left the laſt year, and the improvement by *St. Foine*. the Inhabitants (even in ſome Pariſhes where there is a conſiderable proportion of *St. Foine*) have yet this laſt year bought Hay at 20 s. the Tun and more, and fetched it ſix miles and more by Cart. And I know a Gentleman that hath above 40. Acres of *St. Foine*, and yet is forced ſtill to buy Hay for the ordinary ſtock of his Farm: And ſurely none need to fear, but if there be Meat there will be Mouths, and the increaſe of Graſs and Hay will proportionably increaſe the ſtock of the Kingdome; and as there is more ſuſtinance for Cattle, there will be more buyers of them, and then there will be more Breeders; and rather than ſtock ſhould be wanting, the Improvers by *St. Foin* will in time breed for themſelves and others too, that Graſs having a ſpecial quality to be-

get

get store of Milk, and that very good, whence amongst other names it is called *Idigala*, and will be as proper to breed as to feed Cattel.

Now whereas some are ready to impute the abatement of the price of their rich Grounds and Meadow, to the improvement of *St. Foine*, it is in (probability) but a mistake of *non causa pro causa*, for there hath not been so much of it yet sown, as that it can be generally felt through the Kingdome, as the abatements of Rents have been, and that as much or more in such Countries where none of that Grass hath been, nor in many miles near them, as in their Countries where it hath been Sown. And as much or more in Farms chiefly consisting of Corn, and little of Meadow and pasture, and that for these ten years last past, when very little *St. Foine* was Sown or spoken of. So that such abatements of Rent must proceed from some other causes of the general decay in Trade.

On the other side, that which is feared will be an effect of this, and the like improvements, is not like to be, for the Sowing of *St. Foine* doth not make the rich Grounds and Meadows poor, or more Barren. And whereas it may be thought that the more plenty there is of Grass and Hay, of the less value they will be, that doth not follow neither, and if it did, yet would there no inconvenience thereby happen to the publick. I say it doth not necessarily follow, that the more store there should be of Hay and Grass, the cheaper they should be; for as I said before, the more meat, the more mouths both of Men and Beasts, and the more of them, the more Merchandizers, the more Manufactures and the more Money; and every way the more will be the Riches, Strength, Prosperity, and Glory of a Nation. It may be, that as an uncertain

temper

temper of weather (sometimes heats and sometimes colds is prejudicial to the natural body, so will an uncertain and variable state of scarcity and plenty prove hurtful to the body politick, the one starveing, and the other glutting it; but what so ever layeth a foundation of a certain plenty, must needs be of great advantage to the publick; and though there may be some little appearing, or possibly some real loss to some Men, till such time as they have accommodated their particular concerns and interests, to such alteration in Trade, as may happen upon a new Improvement, and till such time as plenty hath wrought out it self a vent, yet this loss is no other than such as the Husbandman seems to sustain in casting away his Seed, which he will find again at Harvest with great advantage. As for example, in this Improvement whereby the sustenance of all sorts of Cattel is increased, as Men find they have more keeping, so will they look out for more stock of all sorts, and the more Buyers there be the more Breeders there will also be, and the more Breeders the more Feeders, the meanes of feeding as well as of breeding being increased. So that scarcity of Hay and Grass will sooner make good cheap than plenty thereof, for Men will not buy above the proportion of the means they have to maintain or feed of what they buy, and yet those that are necessitated to sell for want of meanes to keep their stock must sell though at low rates, which indeed is when there are but few that have meanes to keep stock, is the advantage of those few, because they may buy cheap, and sell dear, but withall it is (as all Monopolies are) very disadvantagious to the publick; for it discourages the Breeders of Stock, and the less Stock the less Compost and Dung, and the fewer working Oxen and Horses, and so the less Corn, and the less Meat Drink

and Cloathing, the fewer people will be in a Nation, and so fewer Souldiers, fewer Tradesmen, fewer Merchants, because fewer Workmen, and fewer Materials to work upon, and lesser sustenance for the Workmen.

And if it shall be demand where we shall have a sufficient stock of Men? I answer, there is little doubt of the fertility of these Northern Nations of *England* and *Scotland*, if the want of means and subsistance did not put a restraint upon Marriage (which draws after it divers other inconveniences, of Bastards, Beggars, &c.) and we find by experience that the richest Countries are best peopled, and freest from Beggars; and it is not to be doubted, but that as the good husbandry of Denshiring or Devonshering of Land (and the like) hath rendred the County of *Devonshire* a rich and populous Country, which of its own nature is but a barren Soil. So in time will this improvement by *St. Foine*, and other such like, render the Downy and dry parts of *England* and *Wales* more rich and populous. And if it might be supposed that the Kings Dominions could not afford a sufficient stock of Men and Cattle, for the consumpton and working of inner Commodities when increased: Plenty of good and valuable Commodities will draw Men from all parts of the world, or at least such Commodities will be of value in all parts of the world.

If we had such plenty of Corn, Meat, Tallow, Leather, Butter, Cheese, Wax, and Honey, (for them also *St. Foine* will certainly increase Bees, so exceedingly delighting to feed on the Flowers thereof) as that with the surplusage of our own Consumption we might send over great quantities beyond Seas, and also be able out of our own abundance to undersel other Nations, we should not need to fear the vent of them, for our Commodities would

would be most vendible, because cheapest. Besides by haveing a great quantity of such substantial Commodities, for the life of Man, to Transport, we should bring our Export to be far greater than our Import, which now is feared to fall below it, and to be the cheif cause of the want of Money, and consequently of the decay of Trade in the Kingdome, and must needs (if not prevented) in time begger it in the end.

But to such as are afraid of plenty, I shall further say, that it is greater riches not to need, than to have much money. What are Men the worse, though they receive less money from their Lands or goods, if all things they stand in need of for Meat, Drink, Cloathing, and other necessaries, may be bought with less money. And what if Men sel off Goods cheaper, if they can buy them in as much cheaper.

Indeed some persons would not have so much Money in their Pockets to carry on a Trade, which is neither profitable to themselves, nor the Kingdome, but very prejudicial to both; that is excessive Gameing, and betting at Cockings, and Races, and other superfluous, that I may not say, luxurious expences upon Forraign Commodities, tending (for the most part) to the impairing of the health of the body, or the nourishing and venting of the vanity of the mind, and withall exhausting the estates of particular Men, and the general stock of the Kingdome, or at least diverting so much thereof from useful Trades and Imployments to those that are far from being useful or profitable. Wherein if Gentlemen would by their own moderation set a law to themselves, or that there might be a restraint put upon them by wholesome Laws (as the *Roman*, both anciently, and of latter times under the Emperours were very strict therein) there would not be such

great

Great sums of mony diverted from the trade of the Nation, for the carrying on of such superfluous and vain expences, (I speak as to the excess) whilst others in the mean time keep up their monies, for to be ready to purchase the Estates of such Unthrifts at easie rates, to omit many other inconveniences that follow thereupon: If such as have no Lands left to be improved by *S. Paine* (as few that have any considerable estates but have) would spare somewhat out of such superfluous and hurtful ways of expence, they may at easie rates enough purchase good quantities of such Lands, which by this way of improvement they might sufficiently ballance any dammage they doubt they might sustain thereby in their rich Grounds and Meadows.

Again, as I said before, that he is richer that needs not mony, than he that hath it, so the best way for a Nation to have plenty of money is not to need it; for it is necessity that drains away the money of a Nation and forceth them to buy of Forrainners at dear rates, but when they have abundance for all necessary uses of their own, what they have to spair brings them in so much clear money without any deductions for the supply of their own wants from abroad; and the cheaper our Commodities are in Forreign Markets, the more money will come into the Nation in the end, and make our Commodities the most vendible, because cheapest, and because we are able to afford them so. And the contrary course held by our Marchant-Adventurers in starving the Markets beyond Sea, hath not a little prejudiced us in our Manufacture of Cloath, inforcing other Nations out of necessity to set up the Manufacture of Cloth, which they neither would, nor could have done (having none or few Materials of their owne growth) if we had not held our Cloath at

too

too high rates, and ſerved Forraign Markets ſo ſparingly, ſo that our Neighbours, are now able in ſome ſort of Cloaths to under ſell us. I have ſaid all this to ſatisfie the doubts and jealouſies of ſuch as are the owners of rich Paſtures and Meadows, but now admitting they may have ſome cauſe of jealouſie and doubt; yea, ſay it be ſome dammage for a while, yet if it ſhall excite their induſtry, as neceſſity hath done theirs that were poſſeſſors of dry, and barren Lands, *Felix neceſſitas quæ ad meliora conduxit*, and thoſe that have rich Grounds, have far the better Ground to work upon, for rich Soiles are capable of holding their value at leaſt, if not of improvement, ſeveral wayes; but the dry and high Grounds are capable of very few wayes of improvement. If increaſe of Paſture and Meadows in the hill and barren Countries ſhould induce men in the vale and other parts to rerurn again to Tillage, and eſpecially to imploy ſome of their rich Grounds for Hemp and Flax, though it might be ſome trouble and coſt at the firſt, it would after turn to far greater profit to the owners, and of ſingular advantage to the publick, by the increaſe of ſuch ſort of Commodities of our own growth, and the Manufacters relateing thereunto, beſides the advantage which would after acrew by the change of the Seed; ſometimes one ſort of Grain, and ſometimes another, which thoſe Grounds would bring forth in great abundance; as alſo Rape and Cole-ſeed, all ſorts of Fruits and Garden-ſtuff, and after return to good Paſture and Meadow again. A rich Soil is capable of any thing almoſt, and the conſtantly uſing of it one way, only gratifieth ſloth and idleneſs; but ſeaſonable change of the beſt ſuits with the nature of almoſt all Grounds, but eſpecially of rich Soils, and is moſt profitable to the owners, and to the publick.

I ſhal

I shall now add something, as to the parallel which I hear some in discourse make between *S. Foine* and the planting Tobacco in *England*; as if there were the like Reason for the prohibiting of the one, as of the other; whereas the difference between them is very apparent in reason, Justice, and policy.

First in Reason, for the *English* Tobacco (which is laid down as a principal reason for the restraint thereof) is not so wholesom as that which comes from beyond Sea, nor in reason can be, for want of the like influence of the Sun; whereas *St. Foine* is so far from being unwholesome, that it is the most wholsome Grass that Cattle can eat; from whence some hath thought it to be called *St. Foine*, that is to say, *sanum fœnum*, but 'tis indeed called in *French St. Foine* that is, *sanctum fœnum*; for that as some say (and those Doctors of Physick too) it may seem to spring out of the Earth, as it were of a more especial favour from God, not onely for the nourishing and farting of herds of Cattle, but also to serve for physick for Beasts that are sick, and in that respect is called of the Latines *Medica*.

Country-farm page 697 and 698.

Secondly, there was cause to restrain the Planting of *English* Tobacco in Justice to those that have adventured their lives and fortunes in those Colonies, so far off from their Native Countries, for the inlargment of the Kings Territories and Dominions, and have engaged themselves to vend their Tobacco only in his Majesties Dominions, upon promise and assurance, that their Trade should not be prejudiced by the Planting of Tobacco here in *England*.

Now the owners of rich Ground and Meadows have no such point of Justice to insist upon in opposition to such as improve their Lands by *S. Foine*, but on the other

other ſide it would be great partiality if not injuſtice, to hinder men from improving their Land by their induſtry, which of common right every man may do and will be incouraged therein by every wiſe State, if the publick receive no prejudice thereby; as in this improvement it doth not but great advantage; neither doth any particular man ſuffer any injury thereby; for if he did, the Law would do him right, nor can any man ſuffer thereby but by accident, (if at all) not at all, but out of his ſloth and want of induſtry.

Thirdly, In Policy: As the Caſes relate to the publick, there is a vaſt and wide difference. For in that of Engliſh Tobacco, as is largely declared in the preamble of the Act, the Navigation of the Kingdom, and the Conſequences thereof, the inlargement of the King's dominions and Territories by thoſe American Colonies, the vent of our native Commodities to them, the great Trade that relates to them, and the King's Cuſtoms out of it would be loſt or much impaired, only to gratifie a few Perſons in a pedling profit, which they attempt to make in ſome patches of Ground, to raiſe a ſmall quantity of unwholeſome Tobacco, which could not (in any ſort) ſupply the defect of the other; much leſs countervail all thoſe other great and weighty Conſiderations before mentioned, and yet might be ſufficient to diſcourage thoſe Plantations, which after would not be ſo eaſily reſtored again.

But in the improvement by *St. Foine* there is nothing of all this, or like it, but the country in all reſpects. It is ſo far from prejudicing Nevigation, or any of the American Colonies, that it rather promoteth both, by furniſhing this Kingdom with great aboundance of ſuch Commodities, as we vent there, and in other parts whereby more Shipping will be inployed, and alſo by this means

there

there will be a greater plenty of Beef, Butter, Cheese, &c. for the Provision of Ships and Seamen: Neither is there any danger of destroying a great and certain Trade, in attempting to raise a petty one, that will in no sort supply the want, or countervail the damage of the other. For should *St. Foine* fail (as Clover Grass doth in a few years) the rich grounds and watred Meadows, are not thereby made more barren, or less capable to supply the necessities of the Nation then they were before; neither are the Grounds sowed with *St. Foine* made barren thereby afterwards, but on the contrary, it renders Ground more fertile and fit for Corn; in so much that such Ground as before was would bring none, or very mean crop of Corn, being ploughed up after *St. Foine* the roots thereof are as good as any dung unto it, and will make it bear some good corps of Corn; and then being sowed again with *St. Foine*, it will bear it again as well as ever it did; so that it may continually be renewed when the spirit of it is spent with the advantage of some intermeaning crops of Corn: And in this sort they in other Countries do order it; and so no doubt shall we also do in *England*, when there is more plenty of it.

To conclude, there is not any sort of improvement more profitable, and withal so innocent as this; for most of other improvements, together with their usefulness, are some wayes injurious to particular men, and inconvenient to the publick (as in watred Meadows, and draining of Fens hath before been remembred) and yet there is nothing objected against *St. Foin*, which might not and may not equally be objected against them, if the increasing of Meadows and Pasture be a nuisance. And they that are equally and first in the transgression, ought equally and first to be suppresst: and much rather then an improvement

whereof

whereof the usefulness is very great, and in some particulars (as anon shall be remarked) not to be paralelled by any sort of natural or artificial Herbage or Fodder whatsoever, and yet it is so far from being injurious to any, that it doth not so much as offend the senses, by any ill sight or smell, as watring and burning ground doth, but is very pleasant to the eye, by its Vernal and Autumnal verdure and Summers purple vesture, which Flowers (from whence the Bees so greedily suck their Nectar) cannot but render the air also more sweet and wholesome.

To sum up in the end of my discourse the Commodities which will accrew to particular Men, and the Publick by *St. Foine*; I shall mention in the first place that which the opposers of it (out of a principle common to all Monopolists call) a nuisance, *viz.* the increase and plenty of Pasture and Meadow, and consequently of the Stock of store, and wealth of the Kingdom; and that especially in such places where there was, and yet is most need thereof.

Secondly, The Grass and Hay, that is raised thereby, is beyond all sorts of Grass and Fodder, in that it is not only Meat, but Medicine, as hath before been said.

Thirdly, This Grass when once well rooted, runneth down so deep into the ground, that it is neither in danger of heat nor cold, sirreth betimes in the Spring, lasteth long in the Autumn, springeth suddenly again after it is cut down or fed, and wherein it exceedeth all sorts of Pasture and Meadow, (except some watered Meadows on great Rivers, which is not without some prejudice to Mills and Navigation.) In the dryest years, when all the richest Pasture and up-land Meadows are burnt away, this will be both good Pasture and Meadow. What a mischief then would it be to deprive the Kingdome of such a

Commodity which will supply its necessities, when other means generally fail.

Fourthly, This Grass is good both for breeding and feeding of all sorts of Cattle, and begetteth so much Milk, and so good, that the Dairy Maid shall in one weeks space find a great alteration for the better, both in the colour, quantity, and quality of the Milk, from what any ordinary Pasture will yield.

Fifthly to conclude with that sweet and very profitable Commodity. It must certainly raise very much and very good Honey and Wax, Bees delighting so much to feed upon it.

And therefore unless that which God promised as a Blessing to the Israelites, seem a curse to *England*, *viz.* A Land flowing with Milk and Honey. I hope no man will from henceforth indeavour to hinder the increase of *St. Foine*.

This and the like improvements (if incouraged) cannot but make the Nation rich, populous, and prosperous, as we see that of our Neighbours of *France* and *Flanders* are, from whence we learn these, and the like improvements: but if we shall chuse to follow them in their Vanities and Superfluities, and shall not withal imitate them in their Vertues and Industry, but discourage what they incourage, and thrive so much by; we may justly fear, we shall be the tayl and not the Head; always Borrowers and Buyers, and never Lender, nor Venders: and so become the Object of all our Neighbours Affronts and Scorns, which God forbid.

THE

THE SOILS, HUSBANDRY, And VSES proper for St. FOINE

With the ſeveral Manners of its Improvement fit to be known by all that delight in *HUSBANDRY*.

THe Soils proper for *St. Foine*, are the moſt of dry Grounds, though they be very barren, tryal having been made plentifully on Stony and Chalky grounds, not worth two ſhillings the Acre, which have thereby been improved to be worth forty ſhillings the Acre, and have ſo continued for thirty years. The Soils proper.

Sheer and ſlight Sands, are the onely proper dry Grounds; but mixed Sands, as are generally the red and brown, bear it ſingularly well: all Clays and other cold and wet Grounds bear it not. The improper ſoils.

The times of ſowing it are in *Autumn*, from the beginning of *Auguſt*, till the end of *September*: In the *Spring*, from the beginning of *February* till the end of *March*; but the earlier it is ſown in either ſeaſon the better. The times of ſowing.

For ſowing it are in *Autumn*, the Tillage ought to be in all reſpects the ſame, as for Wheat, with this difference: That before it be ſown, the land muſt Sowing it in *Autumn*.

be harrowed very fine to level it: then sow it, and harrow it in as other Grains.

Another way. There is this way also of doing it with small charge, and good success. If Land be sowed with Summer-Corn. and is very free from Weeds, let the Corn be Mowed low; and so soon as it is off the Ground, turn up the Land with a Plow, and Harrow is very well, dragging off as much of the Stubble as conveniently may be; when it is fine, sow the *St. Foine*, Harrowing it in, as before. To wrap or wreath, or raddle the spikes or teeth of the Harrow not to go into the Ground above two inches and an half.

Note. Note, In the *Autumn*, it must ever be sowed alone without Corn.

Sowing in the Spring. In Spring, the Husbandry, it must be in all respects the same as for Barley: for the Land must be made very fine, and be Harrowed before it be sowed, as is before directed. In this season it may be sown with Oats or Barley (but Oats are the better,) or without either, which is surely best.

Without Corn If without Corn, the manner of Husbandry differs not from the former Description of sowing it in the *Autumn*. If with Corn, the Corn must be first sowed and harrowed after the usual manner; then sow the *St. Foine*, and harrow it as before directed.

With Corn new ground. New broken Ground cannot be sowed with it, till the Crop be first had; after which, the Ground being presently turned up, and harrowed about *Alhollontide*, it will be fit to sow the *Spring* following.

For present Trial. To make present trial whether any ground will bear it, let a small Plot about four yards square be digged

digged with a Spade, and made fine with a Garden-rake, and sow the St. *Foine* in rows as is wont to be done with Garden Pease: If the ground be sward ground, the Turf must be shaven off and cast away, that the remaining Earth may be fine: This must be carefully inclosed, and if it prosper well, it shews the soil proper: This may be done in several places, if the soil vary for more assurance.

It must be carefully fenced and conserved from Cattel the first year, nothing being suffered to come into it: the second year generally it may be Mown and the after-grass fed about *Allhallontide*; but Cattel should not be suffered to stay in it in wet seasons till the root be strong, which will be the third Summer. If it be not of sufficient growth to mow the second year (as in very dry Grounds, in cold and dry Springs it will not) it may then be fed with Cattel about the middle of *May*; but the Cattel should not be suffered to stay very long on it, for much treading will be hurtful to it being yet tender. The Conservation of it.

After the second year, all the time it lasts, which is various (for in some soils it hath endured much longer then in others) it may be annually mowed or fed as is desired, without any repair by dung, or other soil whatsoever, but it is not convenient to mow the same grounds constantly; but they should be sometimes mowed, and other times fed. The Uses.

If it must be served with mowing, it must be laid in by the middle of *April* at latest, but *Lady day* is a fitter time. It is fit to cut when it begins to flower, which commonly is about the middle of *May*, sometimes later: It is made in all respect as other Hay. For Hay.

This

This Hay is very good for most uses, that other Hay is so coarse it seems too grosse for Sheep, for Horses it excels.

The feeding it green with great Beasts.

When it is designed for Pasturage, it must be laid early as the beginning of *March*, which will render it fit to be fed by the middle of *April* or *May* day at latest. None but great Cattel would be pastured on it at this time of the year, which it feeds singularly well without danger of suffocation, which is incident to Clover-Grass. It breeds abundance of Milk in Milch Beasts, and the butter that is made of it is excellent.

Feeding it with Sheep.

The After-Moth, and *Grass* that springs in *Autumn*, in the Grounds that have been pastured, may Sheep safely be fed with, which it fats suddenly: it is very good for Ews and Lambs, keeping them in high state, and promoting growth, but they must not be suffered to go on it past *Lady day*.

Note there must be sowed four Bushels upon an Acre.

FINIS.